

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES : AUSTRALIA,

MAY 1971 (PRELIMINARY)

Reference No. 6.27

This bulletin contains statistics of industrial disputes for the month of May 1971 and some previous periods. These monthly bulletins provide earlier information on industrial disputes than that appearing in the detailed quarterly mimeograph, "Industrial Disputes" (Reference No. 6.6), the latest issue of which relates to the quarter ended 31 March 1971. Statistics for recent months shown in this publication are preliminary and may be revised in future issues. Figures for months to March 1971 are final.

2. The statistics of industrial disputes refer only to disputes involving a stoppage of work of ten man-days or more. Workers involved include workers directly and indirectly involved in disputes. Workers indirectly involved are employees thrown out of work at the establishments where the stoppages occurred but not themselves parties to the dispute. Particulars of some stoppages (e.g. those involving a large number of establishments) may be estimated and the statistics therefore should be regarded as giving a broad measure of the extent of stoppages of work (as defined).

3. Stoppages of work at different points of time and at different establishments due to the same cause may be regarded as one industrial dispute. However an industrial dispute occurring in more than one State is counted as a separate dispute in each State. A dispute involving workers in more than one industry group in a State or Territory is counted once only in the number of disputes - in the industry group that has the largest number of workers involved; but workers involved, working days lost and estimated loss in wages are allocated to their respective industry groups. Disputes not settled at the end of a year are included as new disputes in the figures for the following year. The monthly statistics refer to all disputes operative in the month, including those disputes that commenced in previous months. In Table 1 details of the number of disputes and workers involved are shown separately for disputes beginning in the month and for all disputes. Any discrepancies between totals and sums of components are due to rounding.

4. For further information about statistics of industrial disputes see "Labour Report No. 54, 1968 and 1969" (Reference No. 6.7).

TABLE 1. - INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES : AUSTRALIA

Period	Number of disputes		Workers involved ('000)		Working days lost (a) ('000)	Estimated loss in wages (a) (\$'000)
	Beginning in month	Total (a)	Beginning in month	Total (a)		
1969	..	2,014	..	1,285.2	1,958.0	22,985.7
1970	..	2,738	..	1,367.4	2,393.7	30,883.3
1970 May	217	240	188.4	216.2	425.4	5,400.5
June	192	228	48.0	78.8	175.6	2,335.8
July	250	273	80.6	87.7	191.1	2,449.9
August	284	301	452.9	466.4	332.5	4,073.6
September	241	267	63.9	84.5	143.5	1,846.0
October	265	279	85.7	88.6	220.2	3,052.8
November	253	283	89.4	99.2	247.7	3,487.9
December	148	168	52.9	60.0	110.9	1,528.7
1971 January	160	160	48.3	48.3	85.3	1,206.4
February	222	235	102.3	103.3	138.6	1,991.1
March	248	276	100.8	104.5	179.0	2,508.9
April (b)	133	145	56.4	58.9	156.4	2,210.0
May (b)	190	201	106.6	110.5	648.1	10,042.4
Five months ended -						
May 1970	..	1,105	..	493.9	972.3	12,108.7
May 1971 (b)	..	953	..	414.5	1,207.5	17,958.7

(a) Refers to all disputes operative in the period - see paragraph 3 above.

(b) Subject to revision - see paragraph 1, above.

TABLE 2. - INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES : INDUSTRY GROUPS, AUSTRALIA

WORKING DAYS LOST ('000) (a)

Period	Mining and quarrying		Manufacturing		Building and construction	Transport		Other industry groups	Total
	Coal mining	Other	Engineering etc. (b)	Other		Stevedoring	Other		
1969	76.1	76.9	643.6	320.7	276.4	136.2	283.2	144.9	1,958.0
1970	178.4	76.5	625.9	464.0	642.6	148.3	120.1	137.9	2,393.7
1970 May	47.6	7.1	38.6	43.0	242.3	6.2	33.6	6.9	425.4
June	5.8	5.0	59.9	17.4	65.8	5.6	2.5	13.7	175.6
July	3.7	16.3	85.3	44.8	12.7	7.8	13.4	7.1	191.1
August	25.5	3.3	105.4	102.0	39.1	11.3	25.5	20.4	332.5
September	4.6	6.4	34.1	64.7	7.2	11.9	3.9	10.7	143.5
October	3.6	9.0	57.8	51.3	86.1	3.4	4.4	4.6	220.2
November	8.4	17.6	47.2	49.7	84.7	6.2	15.8	18.1	247.7
December	1.7	6.9	8.6	17.6	40.2	7.0	10.2	18.5	110.9
1971 January	0.7	0.7	14.2	16.9	3.2	9.2	33.8	6.5	85.3
February	7.5	0.5	37.6	12.6	68.9	4.4	1.1	5.9	138.6
March	45.3	4.2	38.9	12.1	34.7	3.0	8.4	32.5	179.0
April (c)	0.8	29.8	12.1	28.3	67.1	8.9	7.8	1.6	156.4
May (c)	7.0	8.1	87.6	29.2	507.0	4.6	1.8	2.8	648.1
Five months ended -									
May 1970	125.1	12.0	227.4	116.4	306.9	95.2	44.3	44.8	972.3
May 1971 (c)	61.3	43.1	190.4	99.2	680.9	30.2	53.0	49.4	1,207.5

(a) Refers to all disputes operative in the period - see paragraph 3, page 1.

(b) Engineering, metals, vehicles, etc. (c) Subject to revision - see paragraph 1, page 1.

TABLE 3. - INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES : STATES

WORKING DAYS LOST ('000) (a)

Period	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Aust. (b)
1969	743.8	717.2	238.6	129.0	101.4	9.9	1,958.0
1970	1,393.6	510.8	179.2	93.1	141.1	32.2	2,393.7
1970 May	298.2	67.2	33.7	13.8	8.4	0.8	425.4
June	118.3	26.8	17.2	3.7	5.8	0.8	175.6
July	107.1	33.6	12.8	12.0	17.2	1.2	191.1
August	213.5	60.4	31.1	10.9	4.3	7.7	332.5
September	89.9	29.2	8.0	3.4	1.4	6.5	143.5
October	150.1	38.3	14.9	6.9	6.7	0.7	220.2
November	89.4	91.0	14.5	5.9	41.7	1.4	247.7
December	24.5	53.2	8.7	2.4	8.9	5.6	110.9
1971 January	56.8	14.1	9.1	4.4	0.7	..	85.3
February	86.5	25.5	19.2	1.7	4.1	0.8	138.6
March	108.2	35.9	21.2	2.2	4.0	3.6	179.0
April (c)	101.6	32.1	16.9	1.6	1.8	2.3	156.4
May (c)	580.0	31.7	9.3	13.0	9.0	0.3	648.1
Five months ended -							
May 1970	600.9	178.3	71.8	48.1	55.2	8.3	972.3
May 1971 (c)	933.2	139.3	75.7	22.9	19.6	6.9	1,207.5

(a) Refers to all disputes operative in the period - see paragraph 3, page 1.

(b) Includes N.T. and A.C.T. (c) Subject to revision - see paragraph 1, page 1.

COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS

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ACTING COMMONWEALTH STATISTICIAN

NOTE. Inquiries concerning these statistics may be made in Canberra by telephoning 63 9111 extension 2055 or, in each State capital, by telephoning the office of the Bureau of Census and Statistics.